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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

", (PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

(Rationalised Report according to the Notice of the President of the EPO published in the OJ11/2001)

Applicant's or agent's file reference GEOA, 156/PCT(94.0052	FOR FURTHER ACTION	on of Transmittal of International xamination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)					
International application No.	International filing date (day/r	nonth year)	Priority date (day/month/year)				
PCT/US02/37658	23/11/2002		23/11/2002				
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC							
G06F17/50							
Applicant							
SCHLUMBERGER TECHNOLOGY CORPORATION et al.							
1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.							
2. This REPORT consists of a total of sheets, including this cover sheet.							
This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).							
These annexes consists of a total of sheets.							
3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:							
I $\overline{\mathbf{X}}$ Basis of the report							
II Priority							
III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability							
IV Lack of unity of invention							
V X Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement							
VI Certain documents cited							
VII Certain defects in the international application							
VIII Certain observations on the international application							

Date of submission of the demand	Date	of completion o	f this report				
23/06/2004		01/12/2					
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/	Auth	orized officer	The state of the s				
European Patent Office	MII	LIERE G F					
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Form PCT/IPEA/409 (cover sheet) P20476	(October 2002)		office europe				

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US02/37658

I. Basis of the report

The basis of this international preliminary examination is the application as originally filed.

V. Reasoned statement under Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability

In light of the documents cited in the international search report, it is considered that the invention as defined in at least some of the claims does not appear to meet the criteria mentioned in Article 33(1) PCT, i.e. does not appear to be novel and/or to involve an inventive step (see international search report, in particular the documents cited X and/or Y and corresponding claim references).